

## In the Claims

1. **(currently amended)** A platelet-like pigment whose particles have a length of from 2  $\mu\text{m}$  to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ , a width of from 2  $\mu\text{m}$  to 2  $\mu\text{m}$  and a thickness of from 50 nm to 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  and a ratio of length to thickness of at least 2 : 1, the particles having a core of a metallically reflecting material having two substantially parallel faces, the distance between which is the shortest axis of the core, comprising

(a), optionally, on one parallel face of the core, an  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer wherein  $0.95 < y \leq 2.0$ ,

(b), on one parallel face of the core or, if an  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer is present, on the  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer, an  $\text{SiO}_x$  layer wherein  $0.03 \leq x \leq 0.95$ , and

(c), on the  $\text{SiO}_x$  layer, an  $\text{SiO}_z$  layer, wherein  $0.95 < z \leq 2.0$

wherein the metallically reflecting material is selected from Ag, Al, Au, Cu, Cr, Ge, Mo, Ni, Ti, Zn, alloys thereof, graphite,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{MoS}_2$  and the thickness of the core is from 20 to 100 nm.

2. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 1, comprising

(a), optionally, on one parallel face of the core, an  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer, wherein  $0.95 < y \leq 1.80$ ,

(b), on one parallel face of the core or, if an  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer is present, on the  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer, an  $\text{SiO}_x$  layer wherein  $0.03 \leq x \leq 0.95$ , and

(c), on the  $\text{SiO}_x$  layer, an  $\text{SiO}_z$  layer, wherein  $1.0 < z \leq 2.0$ .

3-4. **(cancelled)**

5. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of the  $\text{SiO}_x$  layer (b) is from 5 to 200 nm.

6. **(previously presented)** A pigment according claim 1, wherein the thickness of the  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer (a) is from 20 to 500 nm.

7. **currently amended** A method for producing the pigment according to claim 1, comprising the following steps:

- a) ~~vapeur~~vapor-deposition of a separating agent onto a carrier to produce a separating agent layer,
- b) ~~vapeur~~vapor-deposition of an Al layer onto the separating agent layer,
- c) optionally, ~~vapeur~~vapor-deposition of an  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer onto the Al layer,

- d) ~~vapeur~~vapor-deposition of an  $\text{SiO}_x$  layer onto the Al layer or, if present, onto the  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer, wherein  $0.95 \leq y \leq 1.80$ ,
- e) optionally, ~~vapeur~~vapor-deposition of an  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer onto the  $\text{SiO}_x$  layer,
- f) dissolution of the separating agent layer in a solvent,
- g) separation of the  $\text{SiO}_x$ -coated ~~aluminium~~aluminum flakes from the solvent.

8. **(previously presented)** A pigment obtained by the method of claim 7.

9. **(previously presented)** A composition comprising a pigment according to claim 1.

10. **(previously presented)** A paint, textile, ink-jet printing, cosmetic, coating, plastic, or printing ink composition or a glaze for ceramics and glass comprising a pigment according to claim 1.

11. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 1, wherein  $0.05 \leq x \leq 0.5$ .

12. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 2, wherein  $1.0 \leq y \leq 1.80$ , and  $1.4 \leq z \leq 2.0$ .

13. **(currently amended)** A pigment according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, wherein the thickness of the core is from 40 to 60 nm.

14. **(previously presented)** A pigment according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of the  $\text{SiO}_x$  layer (b) is from 5 to 100 nm.

15. **(cancelled)**

16. **(previously presented)** A pigment according claim 1, wherein the thickness of the  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer (a) is from 100 to 500

17. **(cancelled)**

18. **(previously presented)** A pigment according claim 5, wherein the thickness of the  $\text{SiO}_y$  layer (a) is from 20 to 500 nm.

19. **(previously presented)** A method according to claim 7, wherein  $1.0 \leq y \leq 1.80$ .

20. **(cancelled)**